

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A car navigation system comprising:

road map data including node data indicating at least one point of a branch point, a junction point, and an intersection point, and link data indicating a road between the points;

a route searching unit for searching for a route between two points based on the road map data;

a notifying unit for notifying the route that is searched for as a guide route of the two points; and

a commanding unit for commanding that the route searching unit select a route as giving ~~priority~~ priority to an automatic travel road where a vehicle can automatically travel,

wherein, when the route searching unit is commanded to select a route as giving priority to the automatic travel road, the route searching unit preferentially selects a route including a road that corresponds to the automatic travel road.

2. (Original) The car navigation system according to Claim 1,

wherein the link data of the road map data includes a cost,

wherein the route searching unit selects a given route

where a total of costs of links that are included in the given route is a minimum value, and

wherein, when the route searching unit is commanded to select a route as giving priority to the automatic travel road, a cost of link data that corresponds to the automatic travel road is changed to be smaller.

3. (Original) The car navigation system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a determining unit for determining whether a vehicle where the car navigation system is mounted has an automatic travel guiding device,

wherein, only when the determining unit determines that the vehicle has the automatic travel guiding device, the route searching unit selects a route as giving priority to the automatic travel road.

4. (Currently amended) A route searching method used in a car navigation having road map data that includes node data indicating at least one point of a branch point, a junction point, and an intersection point and link data indicating a road between the points, the route searching method comprising steps of:

searching for a route between two points based on the

road map data;

notifying the route that is searched for as a guide route of the two points; and

commanding that the route be selected as giving ~~priory~~ priority to an automatic travel road where a vehicle can automatically travel,

wherein, when it is commanded that a route be selected as giving priority to the automatic travel road, a route including a road that corresponds to the automatic travel road is preferentially selected.

5. (New) A car navigation system for a car with an automatic travel guiding device that is used for automatic travel, the car navigation system comprising:

road map data including node data indicating at least one point of a branch point, a junction point, and an intersection point, and link data indicating a road between the points;

a route searching unit for searching for a route between two points based on the road map data;

a notifying unit for notifying the route that is searched for as a guide route of the two points; and

a commanding unit for commanding that the route searching unit select a route as giving priority to an automatic

travel road where a vehicle can automatically travel,

wherein, when the route searching unit is commanded to select a route as giving priority to the automatic travel road, the route searching unit preferentially selects a route including a road that corresponds to the automatic travel road.

6. (New) The car navigation system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a determining unit for determining whether a vehicle where the car navigation system is mounted has an automatic travel guiding device,

wherein, after the determining unit determines that the vehicle has the automatic travel guiding device, the route searching unit selects a route as giving priority to the automatic travel road.

7. (New) A route searching method used in a car navigation system provided with an automatic travel guiding device that is used for automatic travel, wherein the car navigation system has road map data that includes node data indicating at least one point of a branch point, a junction point, and an intersection point and link data indicating a road between the points, the route searching method comprising steps of:

searching for a route between two points based on the road map data;

notifying the route that is searched for as a guide route of the two points; and

commanding that the route be selected as giving priority to an automatic travel road where a vehicle can automatically travel,

wherein, when it is commanded that a route be selected as giving priority to the automatic travel road, a route including a road that corresponds to the automatic travel road is preferentially selected.

8. (New) The car navigation system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an automatic travel guiding device that is used for automatic travel, responsive to the route.

9. (New) The method according to claim 4, further comprising providing the route to an automatic travel guiding device that is used for automatic travel.

10. (New) The method according to claim 4, determining whether a vehicle where the car navigation system is mounted has an automatic travel guiding device, wherein the commanding is

Serial No. 10/662,284

responsive to the determining that the vehicle has the automatic travel guiding device.